

SELGEM

No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

## 1 NAME

HISTORIC

Perdue, C. A., House

AND/OR COMMON

## 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

422 West Eighth Street

CITY, TOWN

Beloit

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

No. 1 Keith Sebelius

STATE

Kansas 67420

CODE

20

COUNTY

Mitchell

CODE

123

## 3 CLASSIFICATION

### CATEGORY

DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

STRUCTURE

SITE

OBJECT

### OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

IN PROCESS

BEING CONSIDERED

### STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

UNOCCUPIED

WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

YES: RESTRICTED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

☒ NO

### PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

COMMERCIAL

PARK

EDUCATIONAL

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

MILITARY

OTHER:

## 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Margaret H. Hanni

STREET & NUMBER

422 West Eighth Street

CITY, TOWN

Beloit

VICINITY OF

STATE

Kansas 67420

## 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Register of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

Mitchell County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Beloit

STATE

Kansas 67420

## 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1874, 1879

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The C. A. Perdue house at the northwest edge of Beloit is one of the oldest native limestone houses in the city and its occupants, the Perdue family, had a significant role in the development of the community.

The property was first deeded to Charles H. Morrill in 1872 under the Homestead Act. A two-story, two-room house was constructed around 1874. On January 29, 1879, Dr. C. A. Perdue purchased the house and surrounding acres from David and Mary Scott.

Charles Atkinson Perdue had earlier been a physician and postmaster in Ohio. In 1861 he responded to a call for volunteer surgeons and served at Camp Chase, Tripler Hospital, near Columbus until the end of the Civil War. After the war he gave up the practice of medicine and lived for a number of years on a farm near Grinnell, Iowa. In 1872 he was one of the principals of the "Southern Iowa Coal Company" which successfully carried on coal mining operations for a number of years before selling out. His son, William Channing Perdue, came first to Beloit in 1878. The parents soon followed, and in late June, 1879, the Beloit Courier reported that the Perdues had disposed of their property in Iowa and would become permanent residents of Beloit. Dr. C. A. Perdue never practiced medicine in Beloit, living more or less the life of a retired gentleman. He invested in a number of businesses and buildings, including the local opera house.

Dr. Perdue had purchased the Scott property early in 1879. The Nov. 6, 1879, issue of the Courier referred to a list of improvements recently completed or underway in the community. Included was the large ten room addition Dr. Perdue built at a cost of \$4,000. Both Perdue and his wife had a considerable interest in horticulture and apparently spent much time and money on fruit and shade trees and other plantings. (His obituary noted, "The trees he planted are a lasting testimony to his industry.")

Mrs. Perdue died in 1886 and he in 1899. The house became the property of William Channing Perdue. The younger Perdue was quite active in local and area politics. He was the Beloit postmaster during the Harrison administration and then county clerk from 1894 to 1896. He was again appointed postmaster during the McKinley administration and served until 1914 with the exception of one four-year term when he was assistant postmaster. He was much involved in the county and district Republican politics until poor health compelled his retirement. The W. C. Perdues were prominent in the social life of the small town of Beloit and their house was the center of many social events. After the death of W. C. Perdue in 1921, his widow, Mrs. Jane Perdue, operated a tea room in the house for a number of years. The current owner acquired the property from Mrs. Perdue's niece in 1955 and has restored much of the house.

The C. A. Perdue house is one of the landmark houses of Beloit and is one of the oldest houses in the community. It is worthy of National Register nomination because it is an early, well constructed and handsome building in which the aesthetic and structural properties of the native post rock have been sensitively exploited.

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The earliest part of the C. A. Perdue residence in Beloit was a two room native limestone structure built in 1874. Shortly after buying the property in 1879 Dr. Perdue had a two story, ten room addition built on to the south face of the original structure. The new addition was constructed of dressed native limestone (post rock) and its design has been influenced by the Romano-Tuscan mode of the Renaissance revival style.

Post rock is a common name for the native limestone which derives from the extensive use the early settlers made of the stone for fence posts. The stone has a creamy-buff color with a brown streaked layer somewhere near the center. Post rock is usually found just below the topsoil in a three million acre area in north central Kansas. The fact that the stone is soft when freshly quarried and hardens after being exposed to the air makes it an excellent and commonly used building material.

The main facade which faces south has a wide projecting central wing. The main entrance has been placed on the east side of this wing. Aligned above the doorway on the second story is a double-hung, round headed window. The window has a stone sill and a carved arched stone lintel with a keystone. This detailing has been repeated on most windows in the building. There are two other aligned windows on this projecting wing to the west of the doorway. The facade is set back on either side of the wing. A single doorway with a window above has been centered on each side. A one story porch wraps around the entire south facade. The porch has been elevated on a limestone foundation and has a wood floor. Although this porch appears in a 1912 photograph, it does not seem to be original because of its detailing and the way its roof line cuts across the stone arch above the door on the east side of the main facade. The corners of the building have been treated with vermiculated quoins.

Both the east and west facades have details similar to the main facade with a centered window on each floor. There is a bay window on the first story of the east facade.

The original structure is now a two story wing that is attached to the eastern side of the north facade. Its roofline is lower and the apertures have flat arches. The corners have been treated with vermiculated quoins. A single doorway with a transom and a rectangular window above have been centered on the eastern face of this structure. A modern, concrete block, single car garage has been attached to the north side of the original building.

In the 1880's the house stood on a large tract of land at the northwestern edge of Beloit. Both Dr. and Mrs. Perdue were considered fine botanists and the home was surrounded by many plants and trees. Much of the land has been sold and the house now stands on a one acre lot bounded on two sides by highway K-14, but there are still many fine old trees and plantings on the property. In 1970 a stone wall was constructed on the south, east and west property lines. Later, through pictorial evidence, it was discovered that a stone wall had existed there earlier. The home has been renovated by its present owner, and the property does appear much as it did when it was the Perdues' residence.





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